GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4675
ANSWERED ON:19.12.2001
DOCTOR LABORATORIES NEXUS
PRABHUNATH SINGH

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news captioned `nexus between capital`s Doctors and Laboratories` appearing in the Times of India dated June 14, 2001 in this regard;

(b) facts of the matter reported therein; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken to safeguard the interests of the poor patients?

Answer

MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR)

(a)to)(c): Yes, Sir. As per the `Professional conduct, Etiquette and Ethics Regulations, 2001` approved by the Ministry of Health (currently with the Ministry of Law for vetting, a physician shall not give, solicit, or receive nor shall he offer to give solicit or receive, any gift, gratuity, commission or bonus in consideration of or return for the referring, recommending or procuring of any patient for medical, surgical or other treatment. A physician shall not directly or indirectly, participate in or be a party to act of division, transference, assignment, subordination, rebating, splitting or refunding of any fee for medical, surgical or other treatment. This shall apply with equal force to the referring, recommending or procuring by a physician or any person, specimen or material for diagnostic purposes or other study/work. The violation of any of the provisions of the said regulations will invite disciplinary proceedings.